

men whether they live in one of the three counties of Delaware, one of the nine counties of Maryland or one of the two counties of Virginia on this peninsula.

For me, coming to Dover is much like coming home. I recall with deep pleasure the days I spent in school here, along with the many other pleasant connections I have in this beautiful capital city of your State. I would remind you, too, that just as I received a part of my formal schooling here, your distinguished Governor was educated in Maryland. Although, as I know, his allegiance and deepest affection lie with Delaware, his ties with Maryland are so close that I regard him as virtually a constituent of mine. I hope, yes, I believe, he considers me in the same light.

Another strong bond uniting those of us who have gathered here this evening is our affiliation with a great political party and our adherence to the philosophies and principles of that party. We are Democrats, proud of the great achievements of our Party, mindful always of the tasks it is bearing and zealous in our determination that its role of the future will be no less glorious than its record of the past. Next year, the people of Delaware and Maryland will join with Americans in the other 48 states to select a President of the United States. With international relations hanging in delicate balance as a result of the conflict between the free world and international communism, and with the plaguing problems we have at home as a result of changing economic and social conditions, the year 1964 may well be one of the most significant years in the history of our republic. We Democrats believe that our Party, historically the party of crisis, has demonstrated its capacity to lead this country through the perils of our modern age, and we, of course, will do our utmost to support our great President and the programs and policies he has formulated to safeguard our nation and preserve our freedom, and to preserve our very way of life.

Our task as Democrats will not be an easy one. Already we hear the rumblings of the gathering storm. Republicans, you may be sure, will use all the weapons of their vast arsenal to defeat us — weapons which will include their financial resources, talent, political skill, cunning. The lines of battle are being drawn. The plan of assault becomes more apparent with every passing day.

President Kennedy's plan to shore up our economy and provide a more abundant life for all Americans — through tax reductions, public works and other measures — is being attacked from all sides by the Republican opposition. His efforts in our foreign relations